

THE BRIDGEPORT TIMES

And Evening Farmer

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TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1922

CUTTING THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY MORE THAN A MILLION.

Mayor Atwater in his annual message to the Common Council includes this illuminating fact:

The appropriations for 1922-23 were \$1,370,011.65 less than the appropriations for 1921-22.

The mayor expresses a fear that he may not be able to reduce the tax rate next year, "because the grand list is shrinking."

The sooner the citizens of a community stop thinking in terms of the tax rate, the earlier they will have a sound knowledge of the cost of operating the city.

It is not what the tax rate is from year to year, which is important, but whether the cost of operation is increasing or decreasing.

More important than the tax rate it is to know that as much money is expended for the operation as is necessary and no more.

Mayor Atwater, taking over heavy burdens and an involved financial problem, has decreased expenses by more than a million and a third of dollars. He has considerably decreased debt, and by the end of 1922 will have decreased debt even more.

The citizen should then inquire how much it costs from year to year for city government, and what he is getting for what he pays.

Mayor Atwater also proposes improvement in the accounting system, an excellent reform, but by no means as important as reforms which have already been accomplished.

The cost of government depends upon wise administration honest and economic buying, good management, and the purpose to deal with the city's business as an intelligent business man would deal with his own business.

The waste which has brought Bridgeport to a civic revolution is not waste which would have been prevented by one or another system of keeping books.

Pavements were laid, millions of dollars worth, without the usual protections. The waste over the best way of doing the thing was at least a million dollars.

Sound methods could have saved this waste.

The Grand street bridge which should have cost \$213,000, did cost \$900,000, or a little less.

It was the same with the sewer basin projects, and other projects carelessly begun in war season, and carelessly paid for at the highest rate for everything.

A cash register helps if it has back of it an honest and interested and competent manager. Of itself prevents nothing. So of systems of accounting. They are good aids to honest administrators, but futile to aid neglectful, incompetent or dishonest administrators. It is almost a habit with the American people, when they discover themselves after a period of time in a municipal mess, to seek a remedy by some system, or formulae.

Systems if they are good, and formulae, if they are sound, are aids to administration, but they will not take the place of interested citizens giving attention to public affairs; much less will they take the place of prudent administrators, carrying on public business as faithfully as if it were their own private business.

Mayor Atwater's showing for his first seven months in office is magnificent.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCHOOL HOUSES.

The Common Council has appropriated \$444,000 for the immediate construction or enlargement of school houses. The money will be used, \$100,000 for the purchase of an East Side high school site; \$344,000 for the construction of additional gymnasiums and auditoriums on four existing school houses, at critical points.

These schools, enlarged with auditoriums, will be put on a three platoon plan, five and one-half hours a day, and 200 a year, and used thus intensively enable a great part of the city to be taken up.

In a high school problem will be temporarily solved, by the freshman class into these improved schools, and the high schools, which will be operated as Junior High schools.

The East Side has long demanded a high school, and will get it, as soon as the debt limit permits a bond issue for construction.

NEED FOR MORE PLAYGROUNDS.

Alderman Hogan is on the right track when he asserts that there ought to be more playground space for Bridgeport boys and girls. In deciding how this space shall be obtained, and where it shall be located, weight should be given to the fact that playground attached to the school house in the neighborhood gets from ten to twelve times the use that detached playgrounds enjoy. The administration of playgrounds created as an adjunct of schoolhouses are cheaper to operate and maintain than the independent playground.

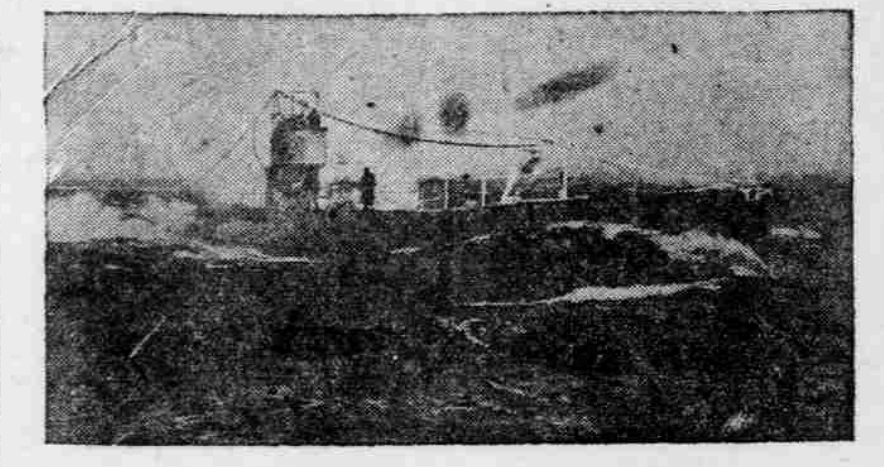
McGee Advises Early Buying Of Winter Coal

With the coal strike situation and the coal becoming more acute daily, McGee, head of the McGee Coal Co., dealers in wholesale and retail coal today issued a statement advising the people of the city to get their winter supply of coal in now and not wait until there is a demand when the price will surely

jump. "With the increased scarcity of coal due to the present strike, coal will surely advance in price," Mr. McGee said today. "It is a little early yet to worry about the situation. We have on hand in our yards at present a supply that will last two months. People are waiting expecting that the price will drop but I honestly say that the price will drop so little from the present price that there will be very little to get their supply now and not wait because when the strike is settled and the men return to the mines there will be a steep just the same. Don't wait."

Times Ads. Bring Results

Three Rousing Cheers Given As Sub S-49's Ensign Was Raised To Masthead



SUBMARINE S-49

Three rousing cheers were heartily given the visitors, officials and workmen as the ensign of Submarine S-49 was broken out during the commissioning of the vessel at the docks of the Lake Tornado Boat Co. The visitors and officials crowded the dock, the workmen found perches on Submarine S-48 and S-51 which were also tied up at the basin and the prospective officers and the officials of the Lake Co. took their positions around the four-inch gun just forward of the Gilmore, Inspector of Machinery at the submarine works, placed Submarine S-49 in commission. Acting for the commandant of the Third Naval District, Lieut. Comdr. Gilmore read the orders authorizing him to lay in supplies and then to proceed to New London. The boat is scheduled to leave for New York on Wednesday morning.

After the sub has been at New London for a short time it is expected to make a trip to Washington where it will be viewed by government officials from the Navy Department. The boat will also visit the city of Washington on this trip. The government officials in Washington are waiting to see in actual operation and installation the many new improvements which have been incorporated and originated since the boats of previous years have been in commission.

Submarine S-51 will be delivered, unless unforeseen accidents prevent before the end of June. Submarine S-52 will be delivered in July, making a crash dive, five miles off the local harbor on the 7th of December will be ready for delivery in a few more weeks.

The S-49 will have for its officers, Lieut. S. C. Sowell as commanding officer, Lieut. S. C. North as executive officer and Lieut. Arthur F. Fols as engineer officer.

The non-commissioned officers will be: Mr. J. J. O'Brien, chief machinist mate, W. G. Lampert, chief torpedo man, Thomas Small, chief torpedo man, and F. W. Fritzon, chief electrician.

Lieut. W. S. Haas, prospective commanding officer of S-51; Lieut. C. Young, prospective executive officer, and Lieut. Francis A. Smith, prospective engineering officer, were also present to view the ceremonies.

Lieut. Haas and Smith, with Chief Machinist's Mate John F. Cullinan were scheduled for Submarine S-48, after the accident last December they were transferred to Submarine S-51. The prospective commanding officer and his aides have not been appointed, as yet for the old Submarine S-48.

The officials and their wives and guests, both the Navy Department and the Lake Co., were present in full force at the ceremony. Among those seen on the dock were Lieut. Commander Charles Hillard, Superintendent Constructor, U.S.N., and Mrs. Hillard; Lieut. Commander Morris Gilmore and Mrs. Gilmore; Lieut. I. C. Sowell, commander of S-49, and Mrs. Sowell; Lieut. Arthur Fols, Engineer Officer and Mrs. Fols.

Mrs. Joseph E. Austin, who acted as sponsor of S-49 when she was launched last spring and Capt. Joseph E. Austin, who acted as sponsor of the Lake Co. and Mrs. Brili; Mrs. Hughes, Miss Hughes, Mrs. Eustice, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Wallington, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Waters, Miss Gertrude Knoblock, Miss Elsie M. Dueschle, Miss Stella B. Thibault, Miss Esther M. Dunn.

Chief Machinist Mates John F. Cullinan, and John J. O'Brien, Chief Torpedo Men W. G. Lampert and Thomas Small, and Chief Electrician's Mate Fritz and F. W. Fritzon.

Messrs. Ecklund, Esmond, Fraenkel, Hennessey and Mills of the two countries, instead of being opposed, are interlocking and should tend to bind Japan and America together.

Concerning the labor troubles between American employers and Japanese employees in Hawaii, Yamazaki stated that his opinion was that all serious difficulties are now past and that by means of mutual co-operation between the two countries, instead of being opposed, are interlocking and should tend to bind Japan and America together.

Because of his recent sojourn at Canton, his small hopes of success in his attempt to unite China under one government, and it will in all probability be many years before China recognizes her own weaknesses sufficiently to take effective steps to remedy them, Yamazaki believes.

In connection with his discussion of the Japanese Consul-General took occasion to state that Japan will never consider intervening in China to restore order or to attempt to set up a stable form of government. The only possibility of Japanese intervention in China, Yamazaki believed, was for the protection of Japanese lives or property in the event of an outbreak similar to the Boxer uprising.

Statements reported to have been made by Koreans and Korean sympathizers accusing the Japanese Government of practicing atrocities in Korea were refuted in testimony by Yamazaki, who stated that the Koreans had been and were being given every opportunity to have a voice in governing their country. Hard feeling between the two nations has been fostered by all-advised Korean hate-mongers, and the assassination of several Japanese officials in Korea as a means of securing revenge for the Korean people, has kept the flame between the two peoples alive.

The prevention of the establishment of a satisfactory Korean Government administered by Koreans, Yamazaki believed, was not looked for by Japan is not looked for by Yamazaki.

BOY CHICKEN THIEVES MUST ATTEND CHURCH IS DECISION OF COURT.

Lima, O., June 6.—"And you are hereby sentenced to attend church every Sunday for a year," the usual sentence was pronounced on five Ada lads convicted of chicken stealing before Mayor Soustey today in the Municipal Court.

The trial was held and the verdict was given. The boys, who were from the scene of "crime," were gleaming in their reddened eyes, and muddy little faces and hands fresh from the scene of "crime."

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Regard Conn. As Efficient In Motor Problem

General Benson, secretary of the state for Delaware, having accepted an offer from the Delaware Safety Council to undertake a complete and thorough study of the motor vehicle problem, L. A. DeBlois, vice-president of the council has arranged to confer with the Connecticut department in the meantime Mr. DeBlois has proposed seven specific questions to the Connecticut department bearing on the motor vehicle problem which is constantly becoming more complex as the number of automobiles increases.

Delaware has the second lowest number of motor vehicle registrations in the country, Nevada, alone, having less. The whole number of machines registered last year in Delaware was 51,500, as compared to over 135,000 in Connecticut, but the number is increasing in each state.

One of the questions asked by the Delaware council relates to the motor vehicle inspection force. Under a law of the Connecticut department in the Connecticut Legislature, the inspectors of the motor vehicle department were transferred to the state police department which has taken over all of the inspection and enforcement duties formerly performed by the motor vehicle department. Patrols covering an aggregate of 3,000 miles of state highways were recently established by Superintendent Robert T. Hurley of the state police.

Fred Enos' Old Pennsylvania University Slogan Adopted By Retail Board

"Bridgeport, the Industrial Capital of Connecticut—Join Us," the slogan of the old Bridgeport Board of Trade, has been adopted by the Chamber of Commerce of this city. This is because of the services of the late Fred Enos, who had much to do to bring Bridgeport industries to their high position of today.

At the monthly meeting and luncheon of the Retail Board, held in the city hall, yesterday afternoon, it was suggested that the business houses of Bridgeport adopt the slogan and slogan of the Chamber of Commerce to stimulate trade. Bridgeport Products Week will begin June 19.

Bridgeport-made goods will be displayed and placed by the merchants of the city, in order that the Bridgeport people may be brought to realize the value of products produced in Bridgeport. Few purchasers of goods in the stores realize the vast number of articles used daily by the people in their homes as being of the "MADE IN BRIDGEPORT" brand.

A prominent member of the Chamber of Commerce, Samuel C. Parker of the Howland Dry Goods Co., to the opening of the new of the land store in Waterbury tomorrow, was accepted. After a discussion it was decided to co-operate with the H. R. Carter in staging the bathing suit parade at Pleasure Beach.

The suggestion was made that Major Carter be requested to stage the parade on a week day.

McNeil Predicts Shortage And Rise In Prices

It is the opinion of R. C. McNeil, president of the Karm Terminal Coal Co., that the coal strike situation if prolonged much further, is certain to result in a serious shortage in the supply this winter and that prices will naturally rise as the result.

Mr. McNeil said: "It is difficult to predict when the coal strike will be settled. Negotiations are under way daily and it is my sincere hope that the strike will be settled very soon. On the other hand it may develop into a long, drawn-out affair and should it continue to the first of September or thereafter, the strike is certain to cause a shortage in the coal supply that will be very serious. Coal is a very important commodity and the kind for home consumption and not the soft or bituminous coal used by factories."

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The New York World today carries a story from Washington to the effect that the "Searchlight," an independent periodical is to launch an attack on the National administration through the medium of the editor of the publication, Lynn Haines, Guttenberg, the former Ball Moxer and artist of Stamford, and John Drinkwater. The latter deals with the office of John P. Morgan, who is also a representative of the house of J. P. Morgan in Washington and elsewhere, and was heavily backed for the position.

Among other things Drinkwater alleges: "He (King) is also the personal representative of Clarence Mackay and is credited with having exerted his powerful influence with the present administration successfully to relieve the Mackay interests in the Postal Telegraph Company from some of the legal entanglements into which it was cast by the Wilson administration."

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Pont de Nemours Company, and has a strange hold on the dye trust, due to the responsibility Morgan & Co. took over when they agreed to finance the duPonts in their exploitation of general motors."

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